

if you get your green copy of the bill, all it does on page 2, line 3 is strike "An", the very first word in Section 2, and insert "Only an." So what we are doing is we are saying that nothing less than this standard that is in this bill can constitute legal death. This statement, I think...what...we're dealing with kind of kind of a sensitive area here when we're talking about death and how to determine death. It is a medical determination, I guess, but if we are going to put it in statute, I think we ought to have it as definitive as we can. So with this amendment, we are saying there is no room for something other than these two recognized criteria, including total brain death, to be used to constitute brain death under the law. I think it's a safeguard against statutory endorsement of some notion of as good as dead, which we wouldn't want, you know. So I think it's, like I said before, a sensitive area and there is good reason to tighten this bill just a little more. States of Pennsylvania and Wisconsin have done this, so it is not really new, and have done it without controversy. I think Nebraska should do the same thing. This amendment really doesn't weaken the bill at all. It really strengthens it, so I would just ask for your support for this amendment. I think it is sound and I think it is justified. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Dierks. Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Madam President and members of the Legislature, I concur with Senator Dierks' analysis. I think he is right. The language certainly has precedence in a couple of other states, and it has not caused any difficulty in the interpretation of the statute. I would urge the adoption of the Dierks amendment and then the advancement of the bill.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Landis. Does anyone else wish to speak to this amendment? Seeing none, do you have closing, Senator Dierks? Closing is waived. We will now vote on the amendment to LB 906. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, on adoption of Senator Dierks' amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: The amendment is adopted.

CLERK: I have nothing further on the bill, Senator.